

# Foch Pinches Foe Tighter Below Soissons; Three Towns Taken; Enemy Losses Terrific

## Tax on Excess Profits Set at 30 to 80 P. C.

### Exemption Fixed at \$2,000, Plus 10 Per Cent on Invested Capital

### \$2,000,000,000 Levy on Luxuries

### Pre-War Comparisons Disregarded by House Ways and Means Committee

WASHINGTON, July 26.—The graduated excess profits taxes of from 30 to 80 per cent on net income beyond exemptions were practically adopted today in final form by the House Ways and Means Committee, thereby ratifying the tentative agreement reached yesterday. The committee also decided upon the specific exemption of \$2,000, plus 10 per cent on the amount of invested capital.

Adjournment was taken by the committee until Monday, when taxation of luxuries, estimated by the Treasury as capable of raising \$2,000,000,000, will be considered.

The committee decided on the amendment of section 209 of the existing law, which puts an extra tax of 8 per cent on portions of earned incomes above \$6,000 a year. This will not affect unearned incomes. The lost revenue will be covered by an increase in the individual income surtaxes.

The excess profits tax under the pending bill will not apply to individuals and partnerships, but only to corporations. Individuals and partnerships will be amply reached through the normal and surtax provisions of the income tax law.

### Limit Excess Profits Tax

The committee decided to retain substantially the same text of "capital invested" and other definitions as are in the present law. There had been suggestions that invested capital should include borrowed money and goodwill and other considerations.

While not definitely deciding it there, a majority of the committee was favorable to a provision that in no case should the excess profits tax exceed 60 per cent of the net income, nor be less than 10 per cent of the net income in the case of corporations with a capital exceeding \$200,000.

Common carriers and public utility corporations, whose rates are subject to regulations by Federal, state or municipal governments, were excepted from the 10 per cent minimum, because the committee regarded such rates as already regulated to a low income basis.

### \$500,000,000 Additional Expected

Treasury experts reported that the excess profits plan adopted would produce approximately \$500,000,000 more revenue than derived from the same sources under the present law. Computations were submitted showing that if the revenue from excess profits under the present law yields \$1,200,000,000 it would raise under the proposed plan \$1,600,000,000, or if the present law raised only \$1,000,000,000 from excess profits, considered by some of the committee members as more nearly correct, the revenue under the proposed plan would be correspondingly less.

Several members of the committee were disposed to favor a flat tax of 80 per cent, the maximum proposed in the finally adopted plan, but the committee rejected the proposal as one that would discourage initiative in industry and business.

### Still Need \$2,000,000,000

The committee disregarded altogether the present tax on taxation. There is still a discrepancy of almost \$2,000,000,000 between the revenue estimated to be yielded by the excess profits and income taxes as proposed, and the \$6,000,000,000 sought from those sources under the \$8,000,000,000 revenue programme on which the committee is working.

So far, however no new source of tax has been considered, but new taxable sources may be found when luxuries are considered. Treasury experts have advised the committee that by doubling the present tax on liquors, tobacco, soft drinks, admissions to amusements, transportation, club dues and excise tax on such articles as automobiles and perfumes, the present revenue of \$950,000,000 from those sources can be doubled.

A new section may be agreed upon so that corporations, whose capital is of little significance may "construct" a capital, which would take care of good will or similar considerations.

## Siam Sending 500 Aviators to France

PARIS, July 26.—More than 500 airplane pilots, members of the best families of Bangkok, have been trained in Siam, and are now ready to come to France to take up active service.

Prince Vaidyakara, secretary of the Siamese Legation here, made the above statement to the Paris "Midi," and added:

"Siam's contribution may appear modest, but it represents the effort of a people animated by the highest sentiments toward France."

## Baker Rules Against Baseball, but Gives Players Till Sept. 1

Declaring that winning the war is now the big business of the United States government, Secretary of War Baker yesterday denied the petition organized by baseball to be allowed to continue its season until October 15 without interference from the "work or fight" order.

Secretary Baker, however, decided that he would allow the ball players affected by the draft to continue playing until September 1. This decision was made, not as exemption from baseball, but because of a belief among ball players gathered from a statement by the Secretary that the president of the National Baseball League would not interfere with the industry before the end of the season.

While the big league officials have not made definite plans as to their future, some high in authority say that the present season of the majors will end on September 2, and a world series will follow immediately thereafter. For full details and the text of Secretary Baker's decision see the sporting pages.

## Four Ex-Grand Dukes Of Russia Kidnapped

AMSTERDAM, July 26.—Four former Russian grand dukes have been carried off by an unidentified band, according to a Moscow dispatch to the Cologne "Volkszeitung." The dispatch says the president of the Ekaterinburg territorial council announced that the band on July 18 broke into the residences of the former Grand Dukes Igor Constantin, Ivan Constantinovich and Serge Michelovitch and carried them off.

The former Grand Dukes Constantin and Igor Constantinovich are sons of the late Grand Duke Constantin Constantinovich, a second cousin of the late Czar. The former Grand Duke Serge was formerly a general in the Russian Army and is an uncle of Constantin and Igor. There are no records of an Ivan Constantinovich.

## British Cruiser Is Sunk by U-Boat

LONDON, July 26.—The British armored cruiser Marmora was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine Tuesday, according to an announcement by the British Admiralty to-night. Ten members of the crew of the vessel are missing. They are believed to have been killed.

The Admiralty also announces that a British torpedo boat destroyer sank the German submarine U-109, which was carrying the Marmora, and is possible the vessel was the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company steamer Marmora, of 10,500 tons gross.

## ISN'T NATURE WONDERFUL! THINK OF ALL THE PRETTY LITTLE BLOSSOMS AND OH, THE MUSIC OF THE BIRDS AND THE STRIPES ON ZEBRAS AND THE SPECKLES ON THE POTATO BUG—AND—



## Rabbi Wise Does His Bit As Laborer

### He Works in Stamford Shipyard to Set Example for His Son

STAMFORD, Conn., July 26.—Day Laborer No. 186 was guiding the front end of a twenty-foot plank across the ninety-degrees-in-the-shade yards of the Luder Marine Corporation here yesterday. His broad shoulders and deep chest were supplying about 75 per cent of the locomotion of the plank. In the rear an abbreviated Italian provided the other 25.

A young man crossed the yards from the corporation's office, calling out "No. 186."

Obediently, the big man with that number on his laborer's badge eased down the plank, rubbed a heavy arm across his forehead and announced his presence.

"There's a guy down at the gate who wants to see you," said the youth from the office. "You can have a few words with him there. It's against the rules to let him in or let you out during working hours for any conversation. Make it quick."

No. 186 hurried to the fence and through the pickets perceived a youth intrenched behind a notebook.

"I'm a reporter," said the visitor. "I have been told that you are Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, of the Free Synagogue in New York City."

"I'm a laborer," said No. 186. "I have been Rabbi Stephen S. Wise and will be him again in the fall. But just now I'm Laborer Wise, engaged in the most elementary form of shipbuilding."

The notebook visitor asked fourteen questions hand-running. Rabbi-Laborer Wise hitched his nondescript laborer's pants and adjusted the only shirt he wore.

"If I spend many minutes here," he answered, "I might get 'doxed' or even fired. Let me say just this: I never knew what it was to do a real day's work until I took this job ten days ago. Not only am I deriving physical benefit from it, but I have the satisfaction of doing something for my country. I wanted son—he is eighteen—to spend his vacation usefully and suggested the shipyards. Then I decided to set the example for him. We are both working here as laborers. I have taken a house at Shippan's Point, near here, and am living there with my family."

And with a hurried goodbye, No. 186, one of New York's best known clergymen, famed for his patriotic utterances, returned to his board-propelling function.

## Million Men Lost by Enemy In Six Months

### 600,000 Estimated Dead, Permanently Wounded or Prisoners

### Boys of 17 Freely Used to Fill Gaps

### Still Has 2,760,000 Fighting Men, but America Has Turned Tide

By Wilbur Forrest  
(Special Cable to The Tribune)  
(Copyright, 1918, by the Tribune Association)

WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES, July 26.—Six months ago a German statesman announced that Germany was prepared to lose a million men, if necessary, to win the war this year. Figures at my command to-day, calculated with every effort to avoid exaggeration, show that Germany's approximate losses to July 25 have been that million. In addition, Germany faces the necessity henceforth of filling the gaps in her various armies with seventeen-year-old boys and with the wounded who have recovered their health.

2,760,000 Fighting Men

However, the figures also show that the German armies with their now defective gap-filling material still must number about 2,760,000 fighting men. Opposing these are the French armies, who, despite the belief of the German General Staff that they have been bled white, have borne the brunt of Europe's greatest battle during the last ten days, the still intact British armies to the north, the American divisions, many of whom have become wonderful fighting veterans during the last fortnight, and the hard-fighting Italian forces, backed in their ensemble by the ceaseless waves of American soldiers who are flowing into Franco-British shores by thousands daily.

The sober military view is that Germany's war is irretrievably lost.

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## German General Staff Wins Supreme Power

### LONDON, July 26.—A striking and revolutionary political change has just been made in Germany, says a "Daily Mail" dispatch from Berlin. Very quietly and unostentatiously, it is added, full executive and state rights have been granted to the imperial General Staff.

### This means, it is declared, that the civil and military executives have been placed on an equal basis.

## Fere, Germans' Main Supply Point, Doomed

### Fall of Oulchy Makes the Capture of Town and Railroad Probable

### By Wilbur Forrest (Special Cable to The Tribune)

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WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES, July 26.—The railroad and road center of Fere-en-Tardenois is probably doomed as the result of the capture of Oulchy-le-Chateau, just north of the Ourcq. The poilus have progressed eastward beyond Oulchy. Fere-en-Tardenois is the nerve center of the supply system for the entire Soissons-Marne-Rheims salient. A few miles directly south of this town American troops early today were biting deeper into the Fere Forest, on the eastern side of which lies the main highway from Fere-en-Tardenois to Jaulgonne, on the Marne.

Filled with Gun Nests

The forest, extending from the river six miles to the northward, is there separated by Hill 228 from the Bois de la Tourneelle, on the west. Both the wooded regions are full of nests of German machine guns. The enemy's system of retreat involves, first, the evacuation from the territory to be abandoned of supplies and cannon, and then the leaving of hundreds of rearward machine guns to retard the Allies' advance.

Accompanied by tanks, which are now dealing with machine guns wherever found, the Franco-American line south of the Ourcq moved forward on Thursday morning from two to three kilometers. The French pushed on to the southward around the village of La Poterie and Hill 141. It is expected that the push will be continued into the important road junction town of Coigny, crossing the railroad and advancing into the outskirts of Tourneelle Wood.

In their progression the French passed the quarter-mile-square Chateau Wood, capturing the village of Brecy, south of Coigny and carefully leaving the wood, completely surrounded, behind the line. The wood contains scores of machine guns and probably hundreds of Germans, who this morning are being plastered with shellfire and probably will surrender en masse.

American Portals Epieds

The American portion of the line which was forced to fall back from the village of Epieds on Wednesday brilliantly retook that village on Thursday morning and forced on in a three-kilometer advance, despite the heavy resistance which was encountered in many places. Machine guns were numerous at the Moucheton Chateau and in the village of Courpail, but both were taken and the American line is cutting into the forest of La Fere, where the battle is being continued this morning.

Once the road beyond this wood is cut the enemy probably will be forced to give up his entire footing on the Marne, because roads are practically non-existent in this vicinity to the eastward. Smoke columns behind the enemy lines still indicate he is burning vast quantities of supplies which had been brought to the north bank of the Marne for the troops who crossed and then were forced to retreat.

Likely to Stand on Ourcq

The Allies have now reconquered virtually half of the lower end of the salient, and it is reasonable to expect that once the enemy leaves the Marne he will retreat northward, probably making a stand on the lower reaches of the Ourcq. The heaviest of the enemy forces still are centered north of the Ourcq and south of Soissons, and desperate resistance is being encountered on the wooded hills west of Rheims. This indicates that the Crown Prince is planning eventually to straighten his line almost across the mouth of the salient, where he will seriously attempt to halt the advance. Another proof that the enemy has a great force south of Soissons is shown in the desperation of his resistance at Villenontaire on Thursday evening. The village is on a quarry-like hillside, organized as a veritable fortress with machine guns.

The French advanced to the outskirts several days ago. The fighting last

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## Germans Chain Women to Guns To Meet Advance of Allies

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE AISNE-MARNE FRONT, July 26.—Reports, which as yet have not been confirmed officially, continue to pour in to the American lines to the effect that Germans are now chaining women to machine guns in an effort to stem the Allied tide of advance.

An American colonel who returned to-day from the battle in the Soissons-Rheims sector told of having himself witnessed scenes which, when they were reported earlier by individuals from various parts of the front, had not been believed because of their inconceivable brutality.

According to this high officer, he was a witness of women having been manacled to guns which they had been taught to use and commanded to serve. Prisoners likewise verify the story that the Germans are utilizing women in their efforts to win the war at all costs, though the women in no way have approximated the "Battalions of Death" in Russia. It is asserted that force has been necessary to make the women serve.

The colonel also told of large numbers of minors of sixteen and fifteen, and even fourteen, years of age being among the prisoners. Some of them, he said, told him they had been instructed by their parents to surrender to the Americans at the first opportunity, after satisfying themselves that American troops were opposing them.

## Soviet Republic In Dire Peril; Owes Kaiser \$3,000,000,000

### Lenine Admits That International Complications and Counter Revolutions Menace Rule of the Bolsheviks in Russia

AMSTERDAM, July 26.—Premier Lenine, in a speech at Moscow before the government conference of factory committees, said the position of the Soviet Republic had become extremely acute in view of international complications, counter revolutionary conspiracies and the food crisis, according to a Moscow dispatch received by way of Berlin.

The Russian proletariat knew very well, Lenine told the conference, that the united action of the workers of the entire world or of some of the highly developed capitalist countries was an essential condition to the victory of the Russian revolution.

It was easy for Russia to begin a revolution, but extraordinarily difficult to continue and conclude it. On the other hand, the beginning of a revolution in such a long organized bourgeois country as Germany was extremely difficult, but then it would be so much easier to carry it to completion.

Referring to the Brest-Litovsk treaty, Lenine said that according to the terms Russia must pay Germany 6,000,000,000 rubles (\$3,000,000,000 at pre-war parity of exchange). The attempt of the Social Revolutionists of the Left to entangle Russia in a war with Germany by the murder of the German Ambassador was no way to evade the treaty. The way out must be found by the joint exertions of the proletariat and the poor peasants.

Russia under the terms of the Brest-Litovsk treaty was to indemnify German subjects for the losses incurred by them through the war. Advice received in London early in April said that the Russian government estimated that these losses would total five billion rubles. It has been reported, but never officially confirmed, that Germany also demanded a cash indemnity of several billion rubles.

## Russian Statement Drafted, but Kept Secret by Wilson

### (By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, July 26.—President Wilson's statement making formal announcement on the subject of intervention in Russia has been drafted, but will not be issued until all the details have been closed up.

The problem involved in arranging an international entente regarding Siberia and Russia is exceedingly complex. The American proposal, to which the Japanese note recently received here was a reply, was of such a nature that it was not possible to render a categorical response, or return a simple affirmative or negative. Therefore the Japanese government was under the necessity of seeking further information in respect to certain points. This now is being imparted.

## State Department Denies Agreement On Intervention

### (Special Dispatch to The Tribune)

WASHINGTON, July 26.—"Nothing has been decided. The matter is still under consideration."

The State Department would say nothing further than this to-day about the negotiations regarding assistance to be given Russia.

It was learned that discussions have been conducted between the five major powers opposed to Germany and are not yet ended, and the inference is that the reply from Japan, which has already been received by this government, in answer to the proposal for joint action in Siberia, brings the question only partially to a solution, as Great Britain, France and Italy also are concerned in the project.

All published statements purporting

## Kerensky Not Coming Here

### PARIS, July 26.—The "Temps" says it understands Alexander Kerensky, the former Russian Premier, will not make a trip to the United States as he had intended.

## Gorky Reported Dying

### STOCKHOLM, July 26.—Maxim Gorky, the Russian novelist and revolutionary propagandist, is dying, says a message from Helsingfors to-day.

## Villenontaire Captured by French With 700 Prisoners

### Oulchy Also Falls and Foch's Guns Now Pound Fere-en-Tardenois

### Americans Drive Foe From Woods Advance 3-4 Mile East of Chateau Thierry; British Forces Gain

### The Allied armies with hammer blows have driven forward at three points on the shrinking Aisne-Marne salient and in heavy fighting wrested three towns and important heights from the retreating enemy.

### Below Soissons the French forces launched new attacks against the neck of the salient and once more hurled the enemy out of the long-contested village of Villenontaire, drawing their guns closer to the Crown Prince's vital supply lines ten miles to the east. Seven hundred Germans were taken prisoner.

### Just north of the Ourcq the French in night fighting ejected the foe from Oulchy-le-Chateau, which had been made untenable by the Allied gains on either side. Several hundred additional prisoners were taken, General Foch announced.

### Just north of the Marne, on the east wing of the salient, the Americans and French drove forward for new gains, capturing Reuil and the Savages Farm, and pushing the enemy back to the southern outskirts of the villages of Lisieres, Binson-Orquigny and Villers-sous-Châtillon.

### The Americans are reported to have gained two-thirds of a mile, probably in this sector.

### By their constant nibbling tactics along the whole front the Allied armies continue to embarrass the foe. Terrific artillery fire concentrated on the railway lines feeding the enemy divisions within the salient and heavy bombing operations by the Allied airplanes have wrought havoc on the already disorganized German forces. Tremendous losses in killed, wounded and prisoners are being inflicted by the Allies on the cramped armies of the Crown Prince.

### In a series of local actions on the front east of Rheims undertaken since the crushing of the German drive on that front attempted on July 15, the Allied armies have advanced their line three miles, taken 1,100 prisoners and completely re-established their original positions on that front.

### The only German gain reported was the recapture of Mery, west of Rheims.

## Allied Advance Slackens as Line Enters Deep Woods

### (By The Associated Press)

### WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE AISNE-MARNE FRONT, July 26 (8 p. m.).—The Allied offensive has slowed down, but has not been checked. Franco-American troops to-day forced back the Germans a bit further north. The greater part of the fighting is taking place in the big forests north of